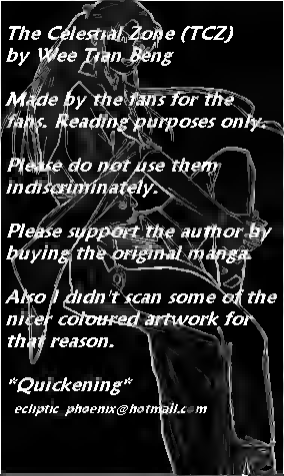
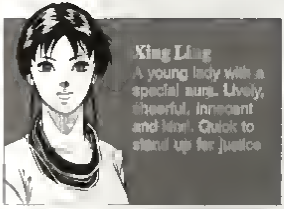
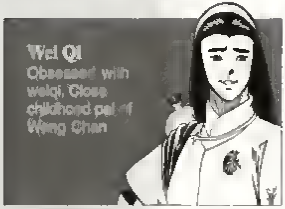
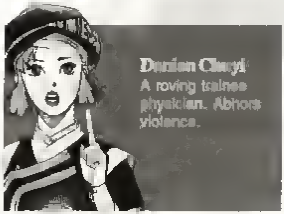
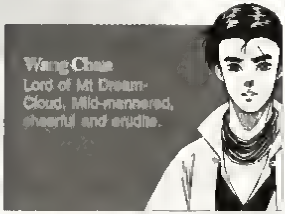

The Celestial Zone (TCZ)
by Wee Tian Beng
Made by the fans for the fans. Reading purposes only.
Please do not use them indiscriminately.
Please support the author by buying the original manga.
Also I didn't scan some of the nicer coloured artwork for that reason.
"Quickening"
ecliptic_phoenix@hotmail.com

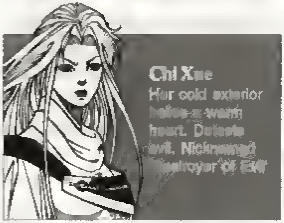
Characters in this Volume:

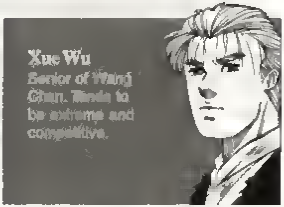


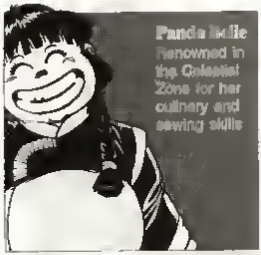






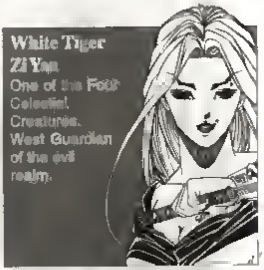





Panda Belle
Renowned in the Celestial Zone for her culinary and sewing skills

Panda Sage
Worldly-wise, he knows everything related to the Celestial Zone.

Green Dragon
Jian Ao
One of the Four Celestial Creatures. East Guardian of the evil realm.


White Tiger
Zi Yan
One of the Four Celestial Creatures. West Guardian of the evil realm.

Three-Star Toad
Secret envoy of Moon Sect.

Jade Rabbit
Right-hand envoy of Moon Sect.

Chapter Twenty-One
Panda Lodge in Bamboo Grove *5*

Chapter Twenty-Two
Way of Nature *39*

Chapter Twenty-Three
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Recapturing...

When Wang Chan stumbled upon Xing Ling, she was already unconscious. Danian Chuyi discovered that each part of Xing Ling's body was operating at several times the normal speed!

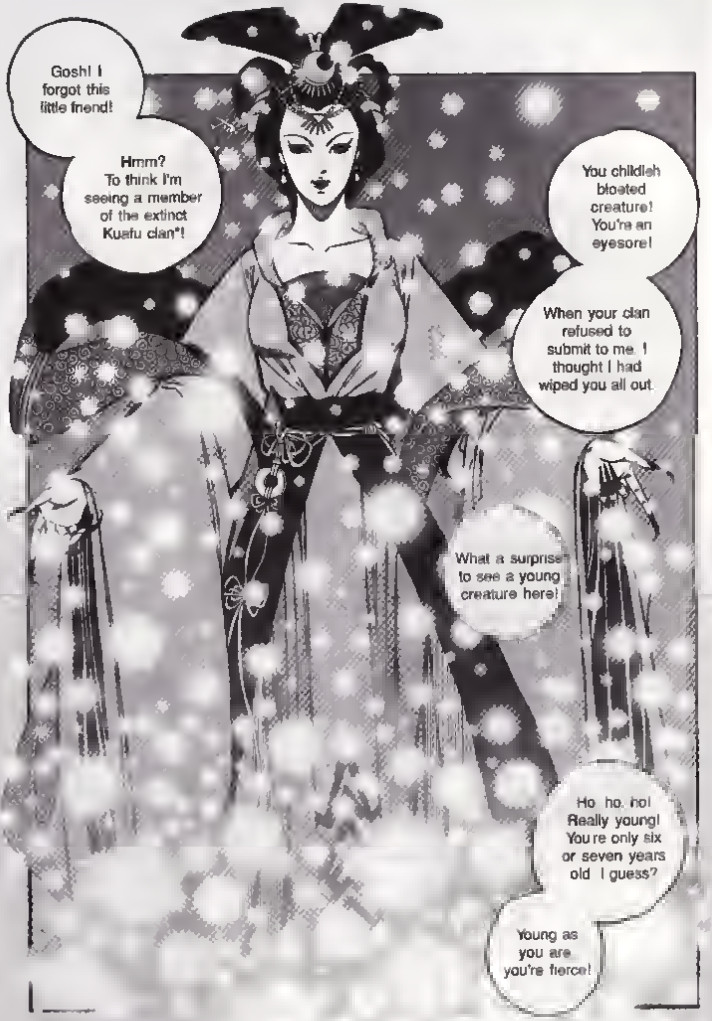
Wei Qi and Danian Chuyi visited Qiong Qi Peak in their bid to find Xing Ling and the missing children. However, Long Brow refused to release the children...

Xue Wu got embroiled in a bloody fight with Xuan Tian Crow but was seriously injured by her. To his great amazement, it was Xing Ling who drove Xuan Tian Crow away.

Pursued by Chi Xue, Jade Rabbit sought refuge at White Tiger Ridge and met the powerful White Tiger and Green Dragon...

Quickening

Thanks for reading TCZ!
Please buy the original manga!


Gosh! I forgot this little friend!
Hmm? To think I'm seeing a member of the extinct Kuafu clan*!
You childish bloated creature! You're an eyesore!
When your clan refused to submit to me, I thought I had wiped you all out.
What a surprise! to see a young creature here!
Ho, ho, ho! Really young! You're only six or seven years old, I guess?
Young as you are, you're fierce!

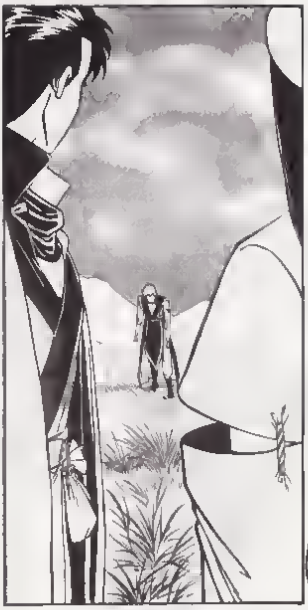
** An ancient tribe of giants in Chinese folklore.*

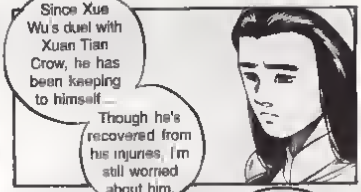
Grrr!
Wow! What a fright! Ho, ho, ho...
Destroyer, off I go. Hope to see you again! Ho, ho, ho!
Grrr!
Xiaobai, I understand how you feel
But that's only Moon Monarch's image. Be patient
Grrr
South-east
C

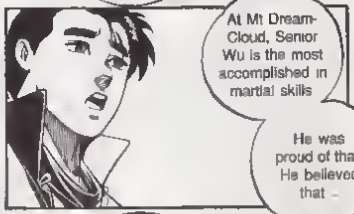
Grrr!
Xiaobai, I know this is a trap
But can I not go?
Grrr!

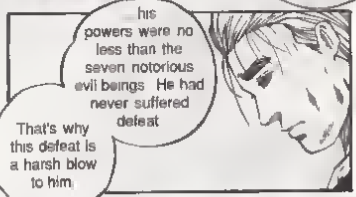
PANDA LODGE IN
BAMBOO GROVE

It's just round the corner on the mountain
Xing Ling! Can you make it?
Yes. Don't worry
Chan, what's the matter?



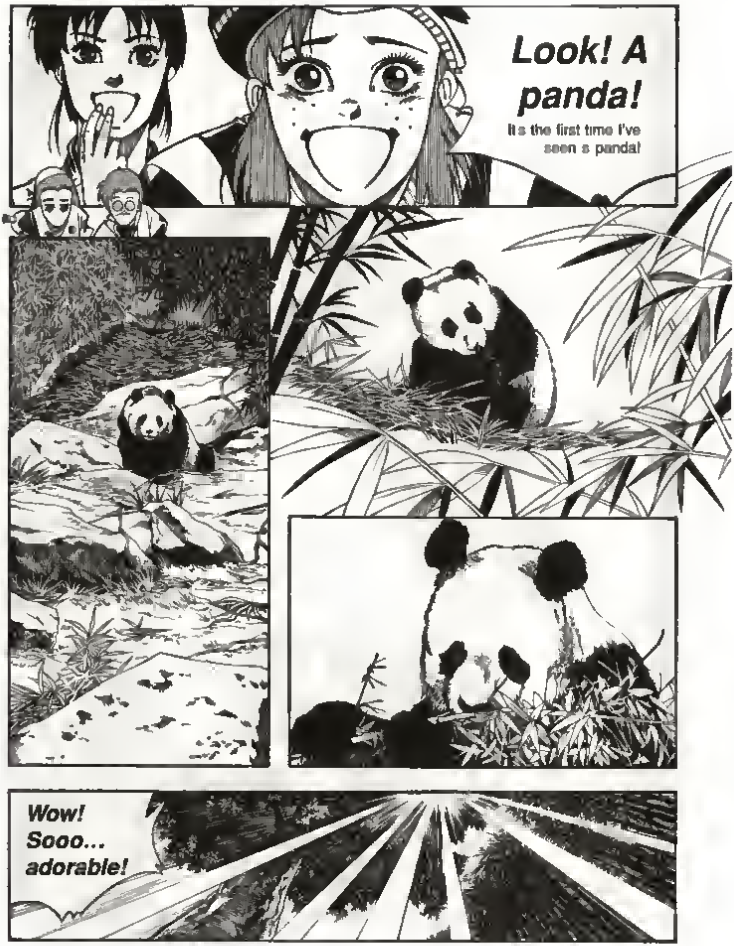

Since Xue Wu's duel with Xuan Tian Crow, he has been keeping to himself...
Though he's recovered from his injuries, I'm still worried about him.


At Mt Dream-Cloud, Senior Wu is the most accomplished in martial skills
He was proud of that He believed that –


...his powers were no less than the seven notorious evil beings He had never suffered defeat
That's why this defeat is a harsh blow to him

Chan, I know that Senior Wu has very strong pride
It's not convenient for me to talk to him You'd better talk to him
OK..

Wow!


Look! A panda!
It's the first time I've seen a panda!
Wow! Sooo... adorable!

Qi, how much longer do we have to go?
Be patient, Chuyi! It's just after this bamboo grove
Wait! Qi, this is no ordinary bamboo grove
Ha! Wang Chan is worthy of his name! You're sharp!
The bamboos are planted according to the principles of Five Elements and Eight Trigrams
In other words, this is a bamboo formation devised by Men!

Right. Without guidance no matter how hard you try in the formation ...
... you'll find yourself walking back to the entrance
My chessmate is eccentric and rarely meets visitors
Now we're going to enter Bamboo Grove Follow me closely!
Chan, are you sure you can walk through this maze?
Not really ...

Strange After such e long walk, I don't feel I ve entered a maze
Everything looks perfectly natural to me
Ha! That s where the wisdom of the mastermind lies!

By moving some of the bamboos here...
...the whole formation will change!
Right. There are altogether 64 major transformations...
...and 81 minor transformations. Each combination differs from the rest.
Its multiple variations could trap its enemy most subtly
Wow... Incredible! And I can hardly notice it! Oh dear!
I don't know
Qi, what's the name of this transformation?

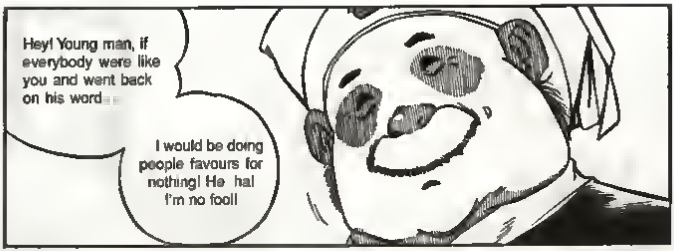
Xue Wu isn't listening.

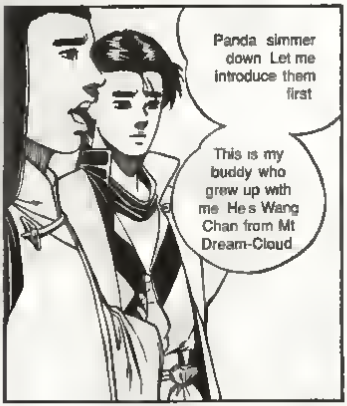
熊猫小居
Ha, ha, ha! Welcome to my Panda Lodge!
Ha, ha! Qi, it's not time for our scheduled contest yet

You can't wait any longer?

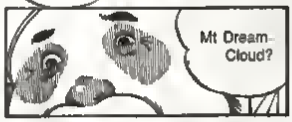
Old Panda, I came because my friends have something to ask you

Oh? Really? Do they know the rules here?
We know your rules.
All visitors are required to present delicious bamboo shoots.
Please pardon us. As this visit was unplanned...
we didn't have time to prepare what you want. May we make up for it at a later time?


Hey! Young man, if everybody were like you and went back on his word...
I would be doing people favours for nothing! He hal I'm no fool!


Panda simmer down Let me introduce them first
This is my buddy who grew up with me He's Wang Chan from Mt Dream-Cloud

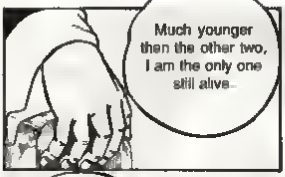
And that is his senior Xue Wu


Mt Dream-Cloud?

These two ladies Xing Ling and Danan Chuyi are my good friends too
Panda, don't be so stubborn Let me owe you the bamboo shoots first

Ha, ha! Qi, do you know how I was related to your teacher?
It's common knowledge that the Three Winter Friends were closer than siblings
Right. Panda Sage of Bamboo Grove, Boundless Old Man of Divine Pine Cliff and...
... Mdm Hundred Grass from Winter Plum Ridge loved chess and plants.
As we had so much in common, we became good friends
Also as we were fond of bamboos, pines and winter plums respectively, everybody called us the Three Winter Friends*

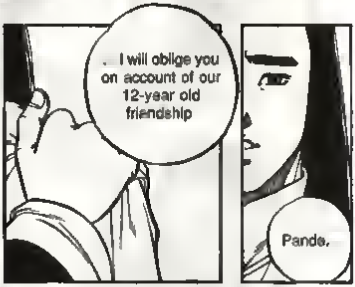
** Winter Friends refer to the three plants that can withstand winter: bamboo, pine and plum*


Much younger then the other two, I am the only one still alive.

I made a vow that if the descendants or disciples of my two best friends came to seek help

... I would answer any of their questions on no condition
Ha! Boundless Old Man was most proud of his chess skills

Little did he expect his favourite disciple to surpass him in chess
Ha! Qi, even if we ignore the bond between the Three Winter Friends—

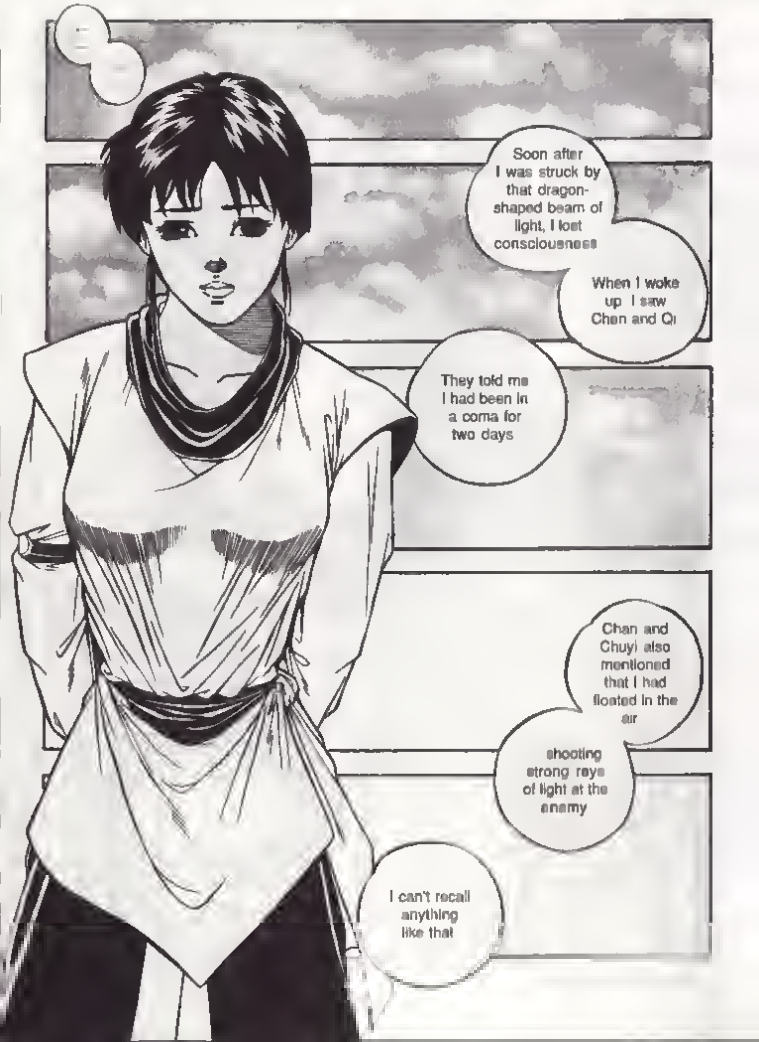

... I will oblige you on account of our 12-year old friendship
Panda.

No mawkish words, please!

Thank you, Elder Panda
Brother Wei Qi!
Belle, long time no see!
Hello! My name is Panda Belle. Pleased to meet you!
Oh! So you are the famous Miss Panda Belle renowned for her culinary and dressmaking skills!
You flatter me...

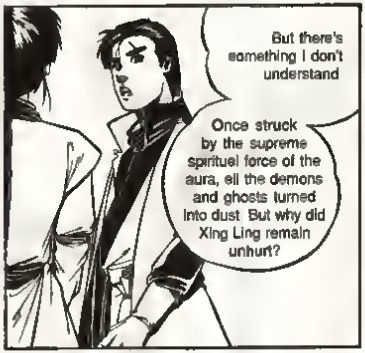
Elder, we came because...
... Xing Ling had a strange encounter...
Hmm, this young lady exudes an unusual aura, but she's too pale in the face
Xing Ling, please recount what happened. Chuyi and I will elaborate when necessary. Take your time.
Hmm, it happened at Mt E-mei when Chan and Xue Wu...*

*Please read volumes 3 and 4


Soon after I was struck by that dragon-shaped beam of light, I lost consciousness
When I woke up I saw Chen and Qi
They told me I had been in a coma for two days
Chen and Chuyi also mentioned that I had floated in the air
shooting strong rays of light at the enemy
I can't recall anything like that

Elder. I had sensed a strong spiritual force at the scene...
I surmise that the dragon-shaped beam of light is the legendary...
...Aura of E-mei that appears once in every 100 years
Ah! Right! "The Aura of E-mei, once in 100 years"! Possible!

Ha, ha! Qi has been telling me about your brilliance. So you are indeed bright!
Based on her account, I agree that it's the Aura of E-mei


But there's something I don't understand
Once struck by the supreme spiritual force of the aura, all the demons and ghosts turned into dust. But why did Xing Ling remain unhurt?

Young man, do you want her to get hurt?

Oh, no! Qi course not!

Ha, ha! This is the first case in 1,000 years!

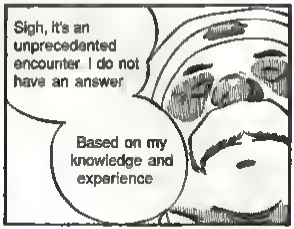
The first case in 1,000 years?

Right. According to records...
...the aura only attacks evil objects.
As this lady exudes a pure aura, I can tell that she is a kind-hearted girl.
Thus, she wouldn't be attacked by the strong positive spiritual force
From your account of the scene where you found her...
...I guess this lady was stained with the blood of ghosts and demons
Thus the aura mistook her for an evil object

Ah!
As it entered her body...
...it was trapped by her aura and her complicated biological structure...
I see. No wonder I couldn't detect it
Panda, do you mean the aura is still inside her?
Does it mean she is in possession of this strong force? That's great!
Sigh... there's no free lunch in this world...
That's why I always say, "Don't hanker after small gains."

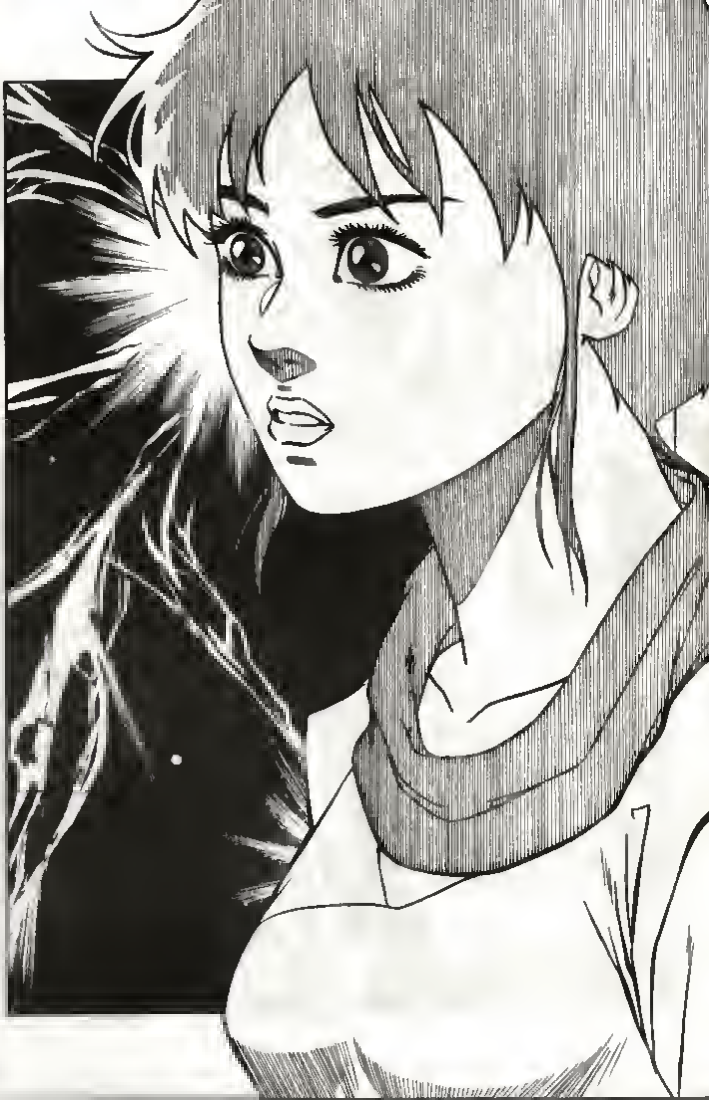
But
Qi, it's not good news You should understand the strength of that force
This lady is like a village girl with no experience in war
Suddenly she's endowed with the power to command millions of troops!
Do you think the veteran commanders will look up to her?
In other words, if she can't control the strong force...
... she'll be harmed by her own army!

Do you mean if Xing Lng fails to control the force within her
— the force will — will —


Sigh, it's an unprecedented encounter. I do not have an answer
Based on my knowledge and experience

— If this 100-year-old natural force is not well-controlled —

— It will break out from her body!
And this will happen soon enough —



Why? What shall we do?
Sigh... The aura is supposed to accumulate for three days and nights before it disperses.
Now, it's been trapped in her body for over three days and nights.
it may break out from her body any time to disperse itself. The young lady will then

No!
Elder, is there no way to save her?
Hmm . There is only one way ...
She has to use her own strength to overcome her biggest crisis .
Let her cultivate her own spiritual force!
Within the shortest possible time, she has to upgrade and master her own spiritual force!
If she merges the aura with her own force, it will become part of her

If she can do it within one day, her powers will be rare in this world!
Great, Xing Ling!
But that's impossible! Even if I could accumulate within a month as much spiritual force as I would within a year..
. how could my powers merge with the 100-year-old aura?
You have to give it a try before you know the answer. Xing Ling, do not give up yet.
Since it's the only solution, we have to give it our best shot.
Don't worry I will impart all my skills to you.
Have faith in me, Xing Ling

Xing Ling, you have our support.
Mine too! I will cook good food for you. With good food, you'll master your skills faster.
Ha, ha! Don't leave me out. Buck up, young lady
Look, Xing Ling, you're not fighting the battle alone.
You have friends giving you their full support!

Ha! I'm so glad to have so many friends in my lodge today
Belle, prepare more food tonight
Yes!

Thank you

Lad, though I have friends in both the evil and righteous realms

and I do not take sides, I am joyful to see that Mt Dream-Cloud has someone like you

Elder, may I ask one more question?

OK, OK After all, doing one more favour makes no difference
Thank you! As we don't travel often
we're not clear about what's happening in the evil realm
But from our recent clashes with them, we've noticed their strong powers
It seems the final battle between good and evil will soon take place. I'd like to find out more about the evil realm
Hmm... Put it this way, to date, 60% of the Celestial Zone is under the control of the evil realm
The evil realm is commanded by the three main evil ones
There's Moon Monarch of the West, Blazing Sun of the East and Xuan Hua Divine of the Central North

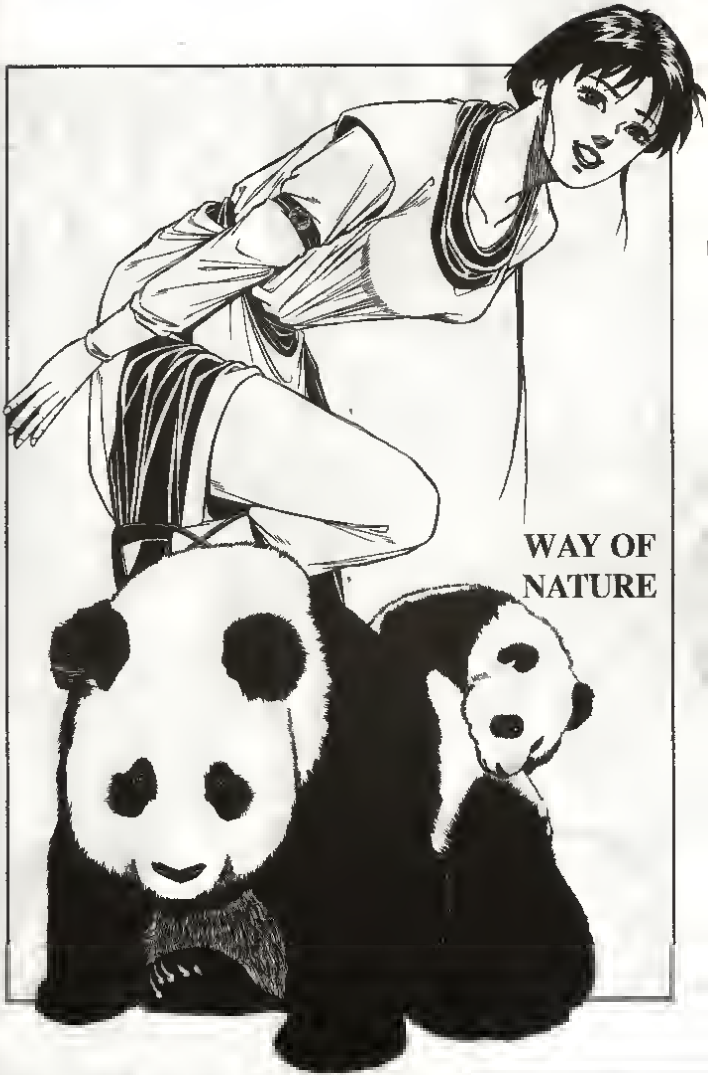
Among the three, the skills of Blazing Sun and Xuan Hua Divine are most superior
But in terms of overall strength Moon Monarch ranks top
Moon Monarch
Moon Monarch and Blazing Sun are from the same school
Though they now rule different sects, they are still close to each other
Also, as Blazing Sun has more valour than wits
he s usually manipulated by his junior Moon Monarch
No wonder Moon Sect is known to be the strongest sect in the Celestial Zone

I must admit Moon Monarch has resourcefulness and outstanding leadership
Her wits surpass her strength thereby enabling her to manipulate Moon Sect and Blazing Sun Sect
She twists her enemies round her little finger
Comparatively, Xuan Hua Sect is much weaker
But the combined strength of Xuan Hua Divine and Xuan Tian Crow is sufficient to command one-third of power in the evil realm
Elder, the seven most powerful beings include : - Moon Monarch, Blazing Sun Xuan Hua Divine and Xuan Tian Crow Who are the rest?
Have you heard of the guardians at the four corners of Celestial Zone?
Hmm these four guardians possess super strength and are known as the Four Celestial Creatures Could they

Right. Since the demise of the older generation of Four Celestial Creatures, their successors...
...have joined the evil realm under the influence of evil powers
The East Green Dragon is now Blazing Sun's guardian.
The South Red Phoenix and West White Tiger are serving Moon Monarch
As for the North Snake-Tortoise, it disappeared soon after it assumed power.
Gosh! Green Dragon, Red Phoenix and White Tiger are the other three evil powers?
Worse, two of them work for Moon Monarch.
That is why Moon Monarch has become...
...the only superpower in the Celestial Zone.

Ha! Chan, life won't be easy for us
Though our strength is not on a par with evil forces, so long as we muster more righteous beings
— we may be able to turn the tables
Hey! Don't forget that I don't take sides
So stop discussing sensitive issues here
Go, go! Belle, take them to the rear for a rest and get dinner ready!
Yes, Father
Xing Ling, take a good rest Tonight, we shall begin our practice
OK

Quickening

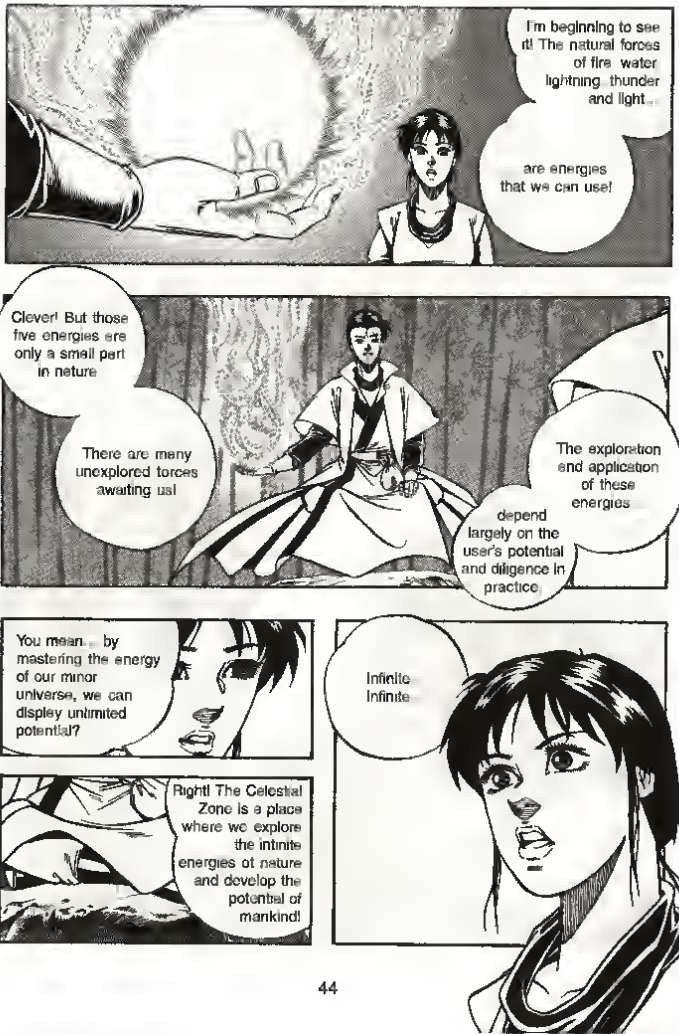

WAY OF
NATURE

Xing Ling welcome aboard the Celestial Zone!
Ah?
Now you'll learn to harness your spiritual force! Once you can manipulate this natural force...
your internal strength will surpass that of a normal person. And you'll become one of us!
The spiritual force is the natural force?
Right. We call it the Way of Nature!
Way of Nature

"The physical being of the Way is abstract. The nature of the Way is natural." We are cultivating a "natural way"
As you're aware physical training in martial arts is not sufficient
It does not free the force within ourselves
Good. You already have some knowledge which will help speed up our process
Now I'll explain the natural force in detail. Pay full attention
First, you must understand that nature as a whole is termed the "universe".
I know a little of it. Physical training only trains the muscles
True force lies with the infinite latent energy within our body — our internal strength.
Our body is an organic system too, termed the minor universe"

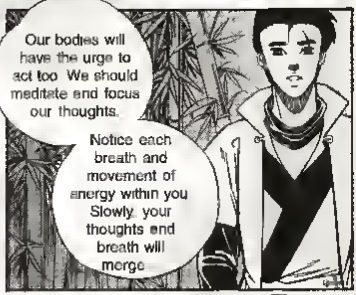
All things in nature are made of natural energies.
Our minor universe, like the major universe, is closely related to energies.
Drawing an analogy, blood circulation in our minor universe is similar to the operations of the stars and tides.
So we will direct our energy according to the rhythm of nature.
Our minor universe must function in accordance with the natural major universe.
Only then can we summon the infinite natural forces around us.

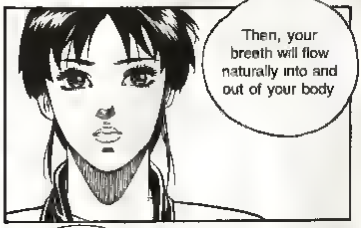
I don't get it!
I don't get it!
Relax. Let me cite an example. Look!
My Whirlwind is the result of a force...
...summoned from the surroundings through my minor universe.
Thunder-Light Vibration is the result of...
...the accumulation of explosive energies in nature.

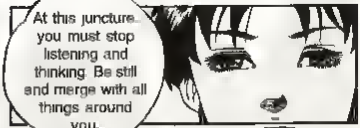

I'm beginning to see it! The natural forces of fire, water, lightning, thunder and light...
are energies that we can use!
Clever! But those five energies are only a small part in nature.
There are many unexplored forces awaiting us!
The exploration and application of these energies
depend largely on the user's potential and diligence in practice.
You mean... by mastering the energy of our minor universe, we can display unlimited potential?
Right! The Celestial Zone is a place where we explore the infinite energies of nature and develop the potential of mankind!
Infinite... Infinite...

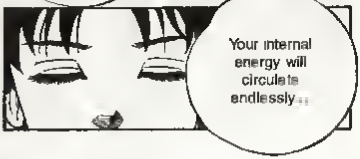
But .. can I do it?
I'm a good judge of potential. Come, it's time
Practise according to the rhythm and procedure which I've told you

Xing Ling, 11 pm to 1 am is the time when all positive energies spring into action


Our bodies will have the urge to act too. We should meditate and focus our thoughts.
Notice each breath and movement of energy within you. Slowly, your thoughts and breath will merge


Then, your breath will flow naturally into and out of your body

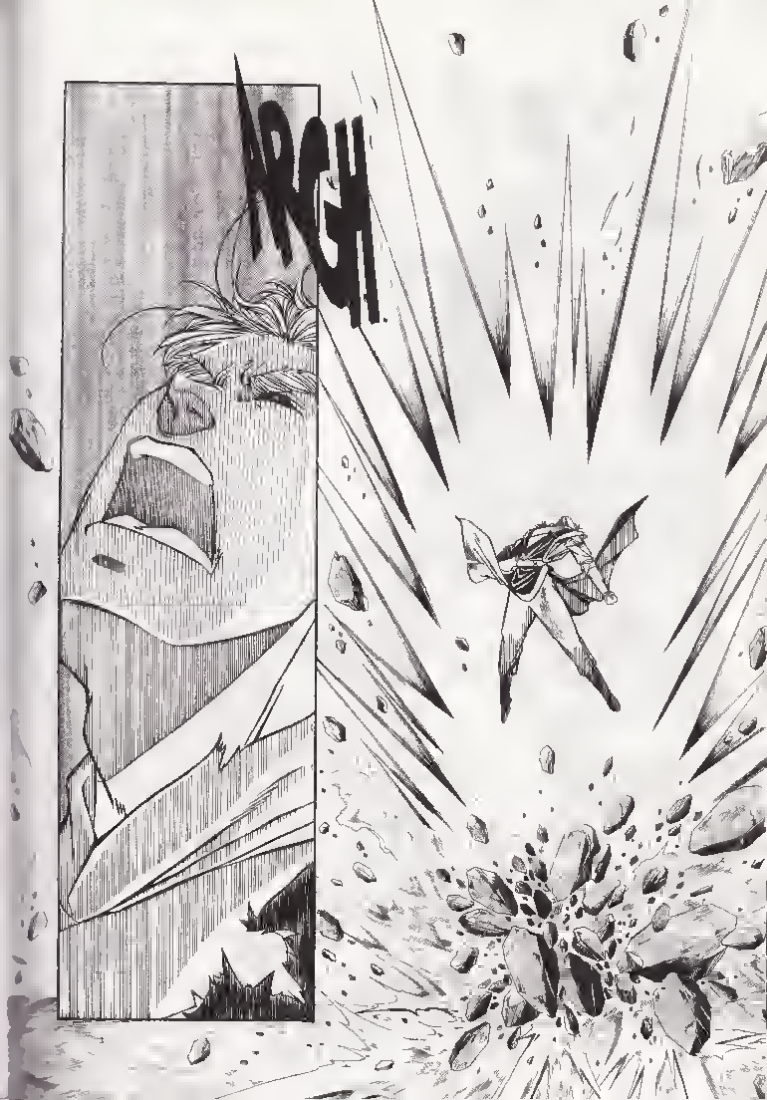

At this juncture, you must stop listening and thinking. Be still and merge with all things around you.


Your internal energy will circulate endlessly...

At the point when all thoughts are purged from your mind...
...you'll have hallucinations...
Keep still and entertain no thoughts... and the hallucinations will disappear... or else you will be possessed
Yin-yang energy turns into spiritual energy which breeds energy of the mind which breeds light...
Preserve your energy, merge the spirit and the mind
Gradually the spirit and the mind transcend the physical being...
...

Xing Ling, given your calibre I'm sure you can master the spiritual force ...
and overcome the threat of death...
It was caused by my mistake I'm sorry
I will do my very best to help you!

Over the last few days in my hurry to get here, I did not have a chance to talk to Senior Wu
He's never been so depressed before. It's worrying
I saw him walking here Sigh... I hope he is fine
Senior Wu
?!
...
...

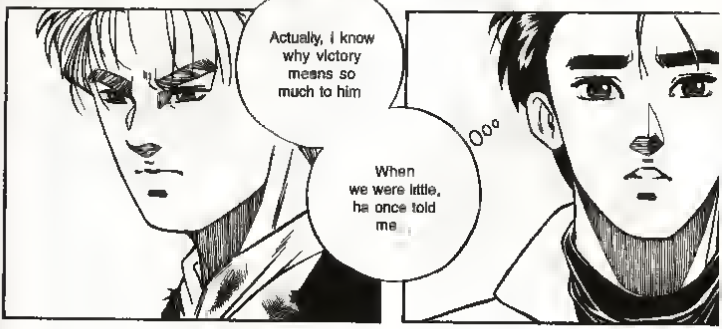

ARGH

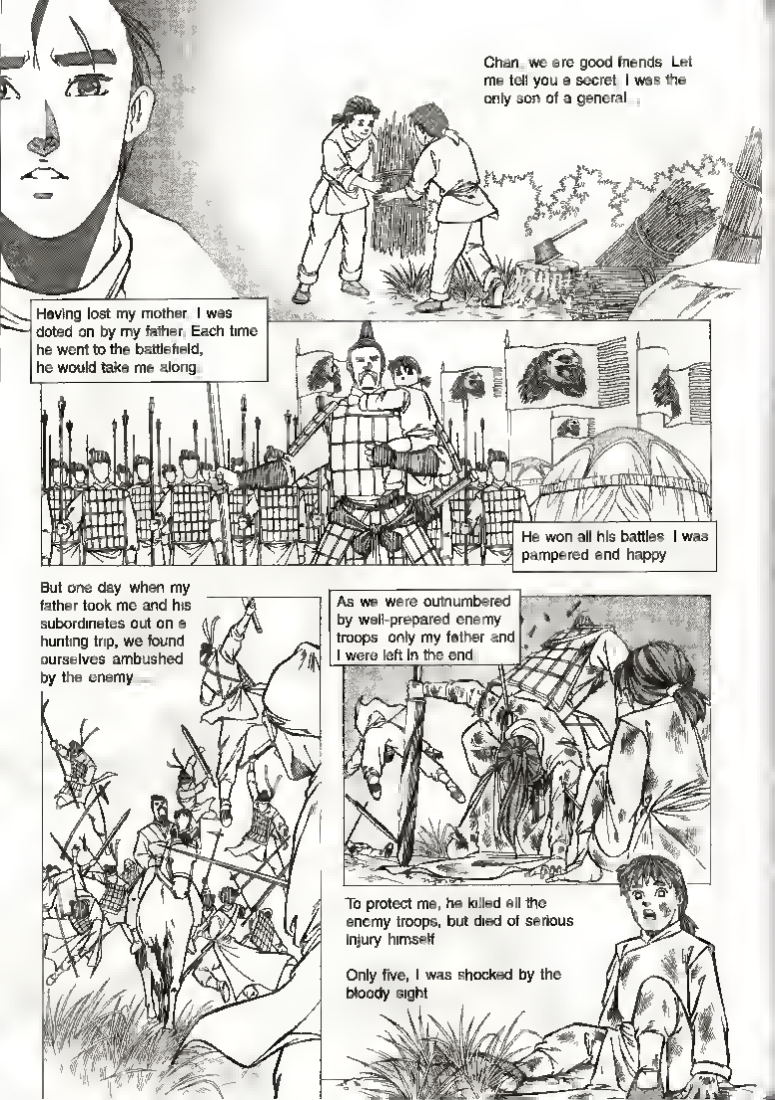
II
Chan, I'm sorry to have worried all of you
Chan, you're here
Wonderful! Senior Wu you look much better!
It's all right
You must have thought I was depressed over my defeat by Xuan Tian Crow
True. In the first few days I wallowed in depression because of the defeat
The fight haunted me and wrenched my heart.

But two days ago, I suddenly saw the reason behind my defeat — my weakness!
After that, I searched my mind for ways to improve and break through. Finally, I've found enlightenment!

Great! I knew Senior Wu wouldn't fall so easily!

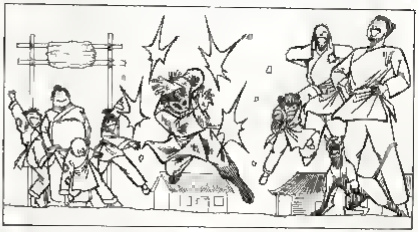
I had never been defeated and I do not like the experience
But the fight has awakened me to a lot of things...


Actually, I know why victory means so much to him
When we were little, he once told me...
O_O


Chan, we are good friends. Let me tell you a secret. I was the only son of a general.
Having lost my mother, I was doted on by my father. Each time he went to the battlefield, he would take me along.
He won all his battles. I was pampered and happy.
But one day, when my father took me and his subordinates out on a hunting trip, we found ourselves ambushed by the enemy.
As we were outnumbered by well-prepared enemy troops, only my father and I were left in the end.
To protect me, he killed all the enemy troops, but died of serious injury himself.
Only five, I was shocked by the bloody sight.

After a long time, I left the scene in a daze... Not knowing my way home, I wandered from place to place.

During those days, I was subjected to all kinds of humiliation.



The years of battle also made me realise the extremes of victory and defeat.

One day, I met Teacher who took me in.

The long years of solitude and shock had rendered me speechless for a while.

Noticing the bloodstains on me caused by the fierce battle between my father and the enemy, Teacher named me "Xue" (blood).

Among all the subjects he taught, I preferred martial arts because I knew its power...

...could defeat the enemy, protect my family and myself

I trained very hard as I feared defeat. I dreaded the past...

Slowly, I regained my memory and the power of speech. In one of my pockets, I found...

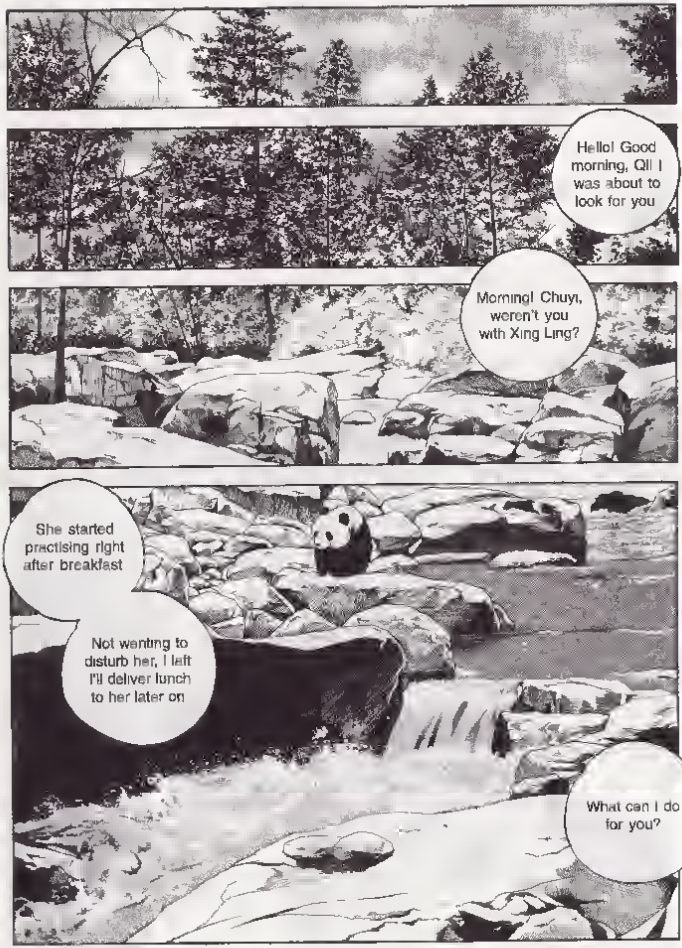
...a tiny jade pendant with my name "Bin*" engraved on it.

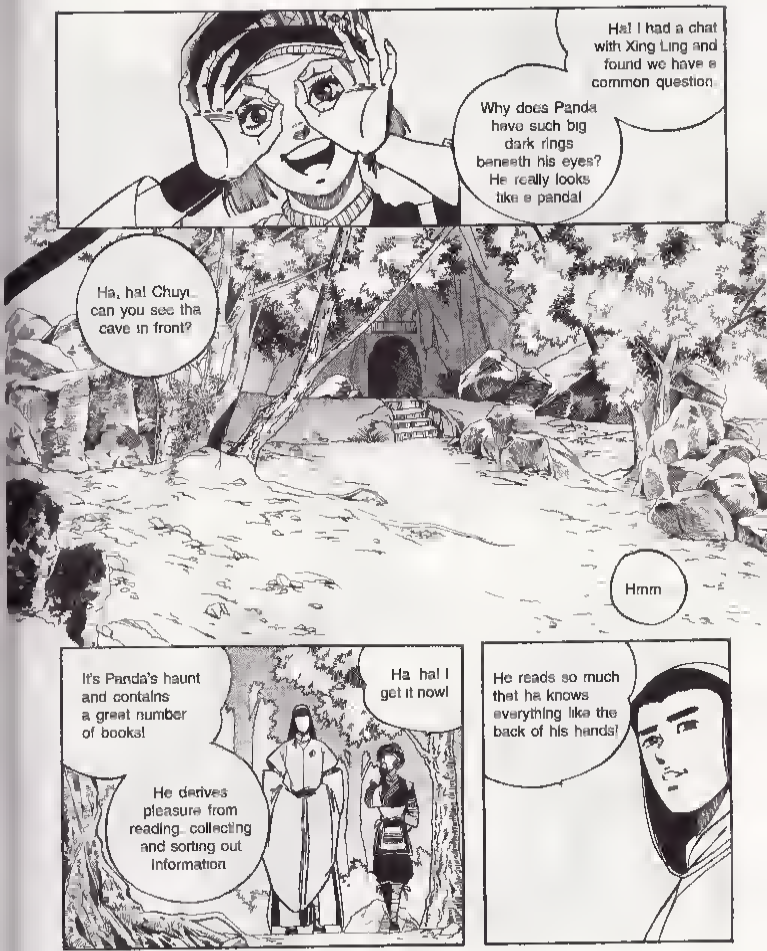
In the end I chose the right component of the character, "Wu", and made it my new name!

I told Teacher that my new name would be Xue Wu and vowed to become the top martial arts exponent in the Celestial Zone. I wanted to be invincible!

* *The character "Bin" comprises two components — "Wen" and "Wu".*

I'm so glad you've got over it! Who hasn't suffered defeat?
Chan, rest assured I am fine.
I've lost once. But I vow I will not allow it to happen again!
This is such a tranquil spot.
It's perfect for my meditation and training.
Ha! Senior Wu, I am relieved at last.
By the way, how is Xing Ling?

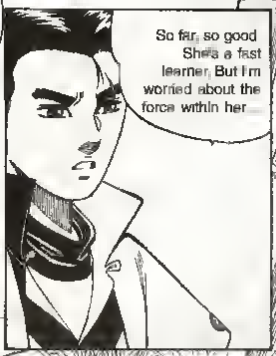

Hello! Good morning, Qil I was about to look for you
Morning! Chuyi, weren't you with Xing Ling?
She started practising right after breakfast
Not wanting to disturb her, I left I'll deliver lunch to her later on
What can I do for you?


Ha! I had a chat with Xing Ling and found we have a common question.
Why does Panda have such big dark rings beneath his eyes? He really looks like a panda!
Ha, ha! Chuyi.. can you see the cave in front?
Hmm
It's Panda's haunt and contains a great number of books!
He derives pleasure from reading, collecting and sorting out information
Ha, ha! I get it now!
He reads so much that he knows everything like the back of his hands!

Chan.. how is Senior Xue Wu?

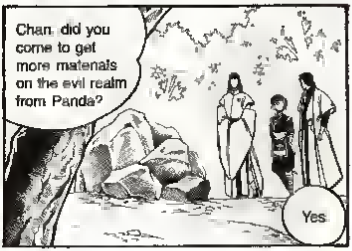
OK. He's training hard Though he was defeated he has learnt a lot from it

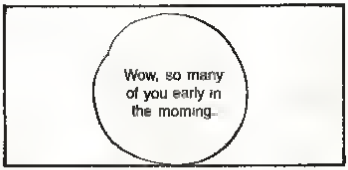
it'll be his stepping stone to greater mastery



Chan, it may not be a bad thing to have it within her.
I believe she recovered from the fall all because of it

Perhaps nothing is absolutely good or bad


Chan, did you come to get more materials on the evil realm from Panda?
Yes


Wow, so many of you early in the morning..

Good morning Panda! I came to claim what you owe me!

What does he owe you?

I had a game of chess with him last night. If I lost, I would copy materials for him for 10 days
If he lost, he would have to give us a report of the evil realm's structure
Whoever plays chess with you will never gain!
Heo! His dark rings have become even darker!
Lad, this is what you want!
Thanks
Chan, this organisational chart...

Before paper was invented, mankind used to engrave words on bamboo sticks or write them on cloth.

Hmm. Moon Monarch also has the left, right and secret envoys under her.
She commands a total of 3,000 evil spirits, ghosts and demons! Wow!
Blazing Sun has Green Dragon and two aides
He commands 700 evil spirits, ghosts and demons
As for Xuan Hua Divine, he leads his sister Xuan Tian Crow as well as 1,000 evil spirits, demons and ghosts
Ah! There's another guardian here. Panda, who is he?
He keeps a low profile. I don't have much material on him
All I know is, he's as powerful as Xuan Tian Crow!
In any case, we now have a better idea of the strength of the evil realm.
Tell me about the Three Celestial Creatures' strengths and characteristics

Ah... so troublesome!
Each of the three has its forte
Green Dragon is most powerful in strength. White Tiger is most scheming
Red Phoenix is tha swiftest of them all.
Yawn... I didn't sleep a wink. I'm bushed.
Take your time to study my report. I'm going to bed! Yawn—
Thank you, Elder!

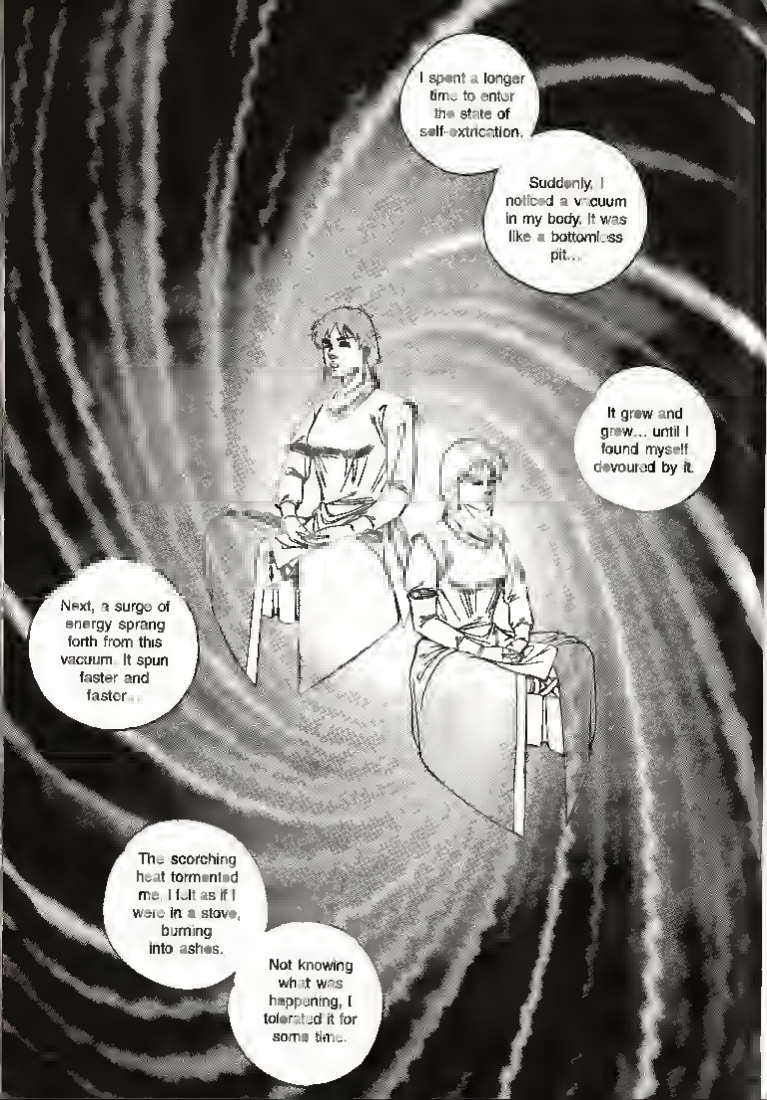
Xing Ling should be taking a break.
Chen, she's spending 18 hours on each session, three times more than usual. If I were her, I would have collapsed.
Xing Ling is training hard partly because her life is at stake.
But her greatest motivation is that she doesn't want to let us down!
I guess I don't have to tell you the pains of training.
Without patience, determination and an indomitable will a normal person could never complete it.
Yet Xing Ling is training three times as hard!
That's to say, her pains and difficulties are tripled.

Chan, what can we do to help her?
And what are her chances of successfully controlling the aura within her?
As you know, training depends on one's own diligence and potential. There's no easy way out.
What upsets me is, I have no confidence she can control the force.
The only ray of hope hinges on Xing Ling's latent potential.
Sigh, in other words, only she can save herself.
Ah! Look!
!!

?
BONG

Ouch!
Sur prise! You can float on your own!
I don't know how I
Marvellous, Xing Ling!
Relax. Try and recall what you did
Ah
After the noon session, I felt thirsty
Just as I was getting some water
I remembered an example which Chen had told me!

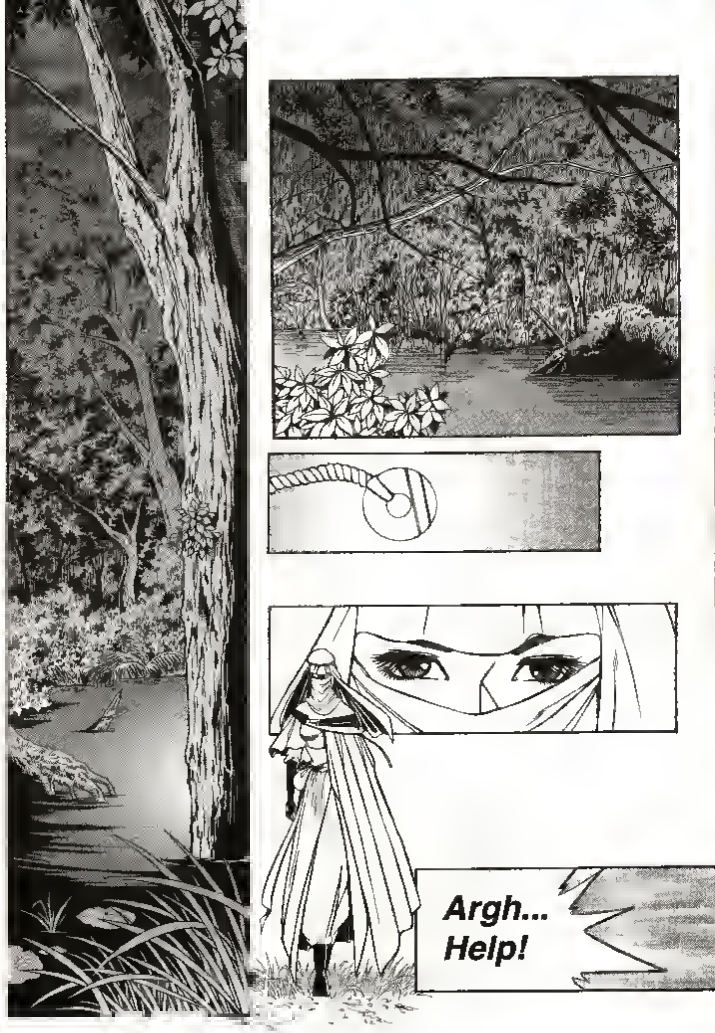
You said the cup could contain things because it was empty
I realised the spot where I was training was also empty
Hence, I could practise there
You once said that what was in existence provided the convenience and conditions
... for nothingness to take effect. We should not just look at what is in existence and ignore what is non-existent.
I thought about the infinite energy which exists in the background of nothingness.
What about the non-existent part of me? How do I use it?
I pondered over it until I started the next training session.


I spent a longer time to enter the state of self-extrication.
Suddenly, I noticed a vacuum in my body. It was like a bottomless pit...
It grew and grew... until I found myself devoured by it.
Next, a surge of energy sprang forth from this vacuum. It spun faster and faster...
The scorching heat tormented me. I felt as if I were in a stove, burning into ashes.
Not knowing what was happening, I tolerated it for some time.

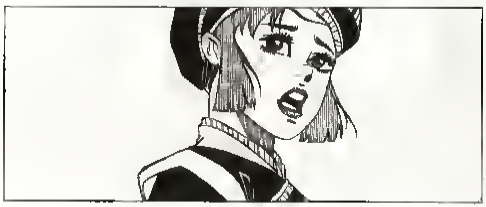
Just as I was about to collapse...
...the spinning of the heat slowed down.
When I opened my eyes, I saw you... and realised I was floating in the air!
Incredible! Within such a short time you've triggered off the power of your minor universe!
I've triggered off...?
Right, Xing Ling, your learning ability is very strong. The spinning heat energy is the minor universe within you! As it spins endlessly, you can start using the spiritual force.
Great! No wonder Chan has been saying you have potential! He is right! Wonderful!!
He! so simple...

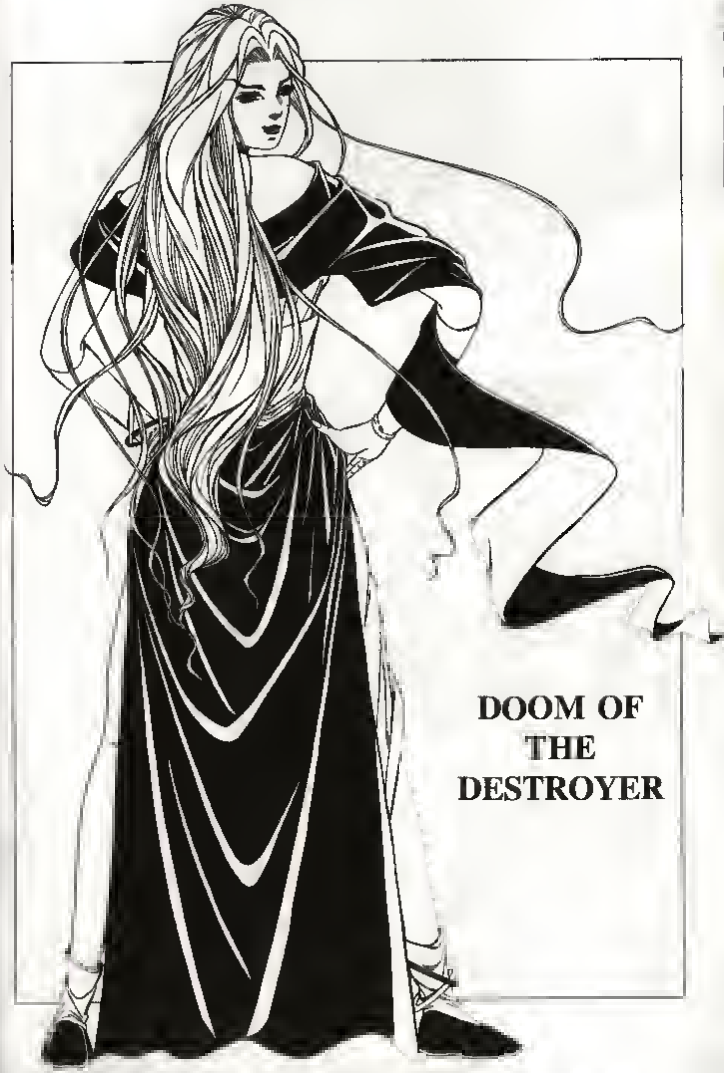
Not at all! An ordinary person would need up to 10 years to reach that level.
But a person's potential is a major factor.
A person of exceptionally high calibre can attain that level within a short time.
But this is only the beginning. You have a long way ahead.
From tomorrow on, each of your four sessions will be subdivided into two.
First, meditate to concentrate the spiritual force within you.
Then, use the spiritual force to attract the forces of nature around you and magnify them!
It will be several times tougher than what you've experienced today.
First, I shall teach you the Thunder-Light Vibration!
Ah... the Thunder-Light Vibration! So soon...

At a loss... she still doesn't fully understand what's going on.


Argh...
Help!

Quickening




DOOM OF
THE
DESTROYER

Mama!
Help!

Ah!

Ha, ha, ha!

Ha, ha! What fun! I told you you can't escape!

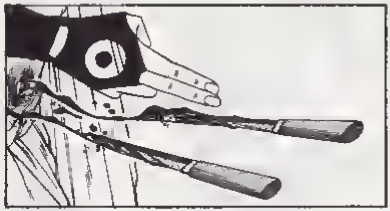
Mama!

BOOM
Destroyer of Evil!

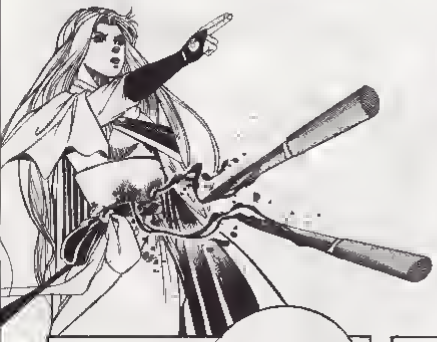
Waw!
Hush. It's all right.
Waw!
It's going to rain. Where are you going? I'll see you there
BOOM
Argh! I'm so scared ...

BRP
ARGH

He, he! Long time no see Destroyer of Evil!
Haven't you been after me?
I'm right before you now. Come and kill me!

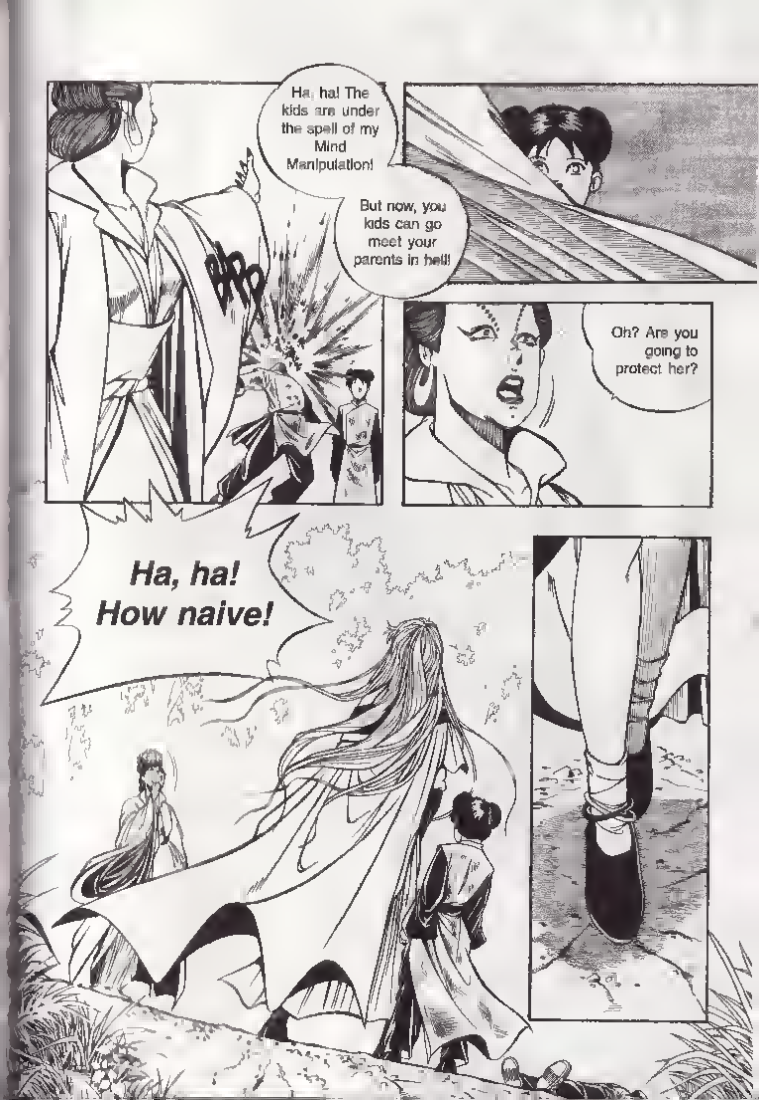


Wow! How cool!

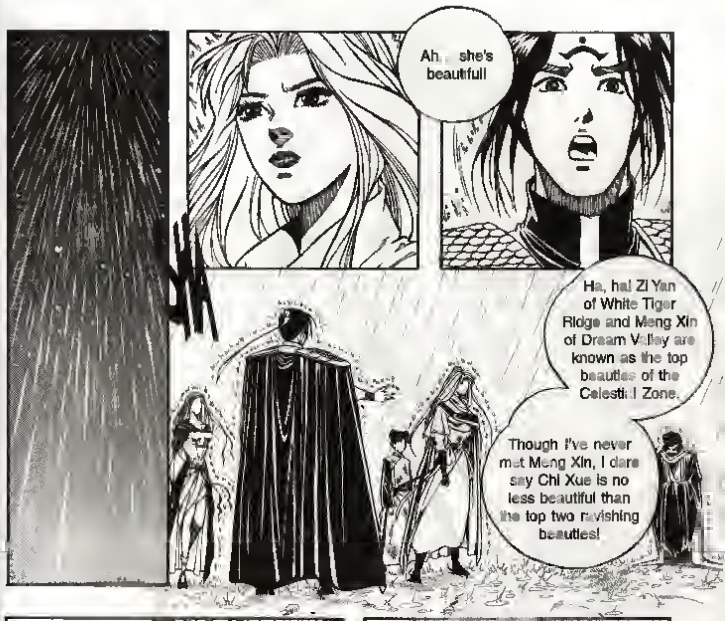


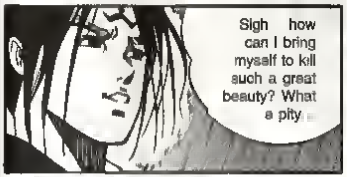
But what a pity! The two daggers in your body
– were smeared with bone-dissolving poison! You'd better keep still! Ha, ha!

Flop

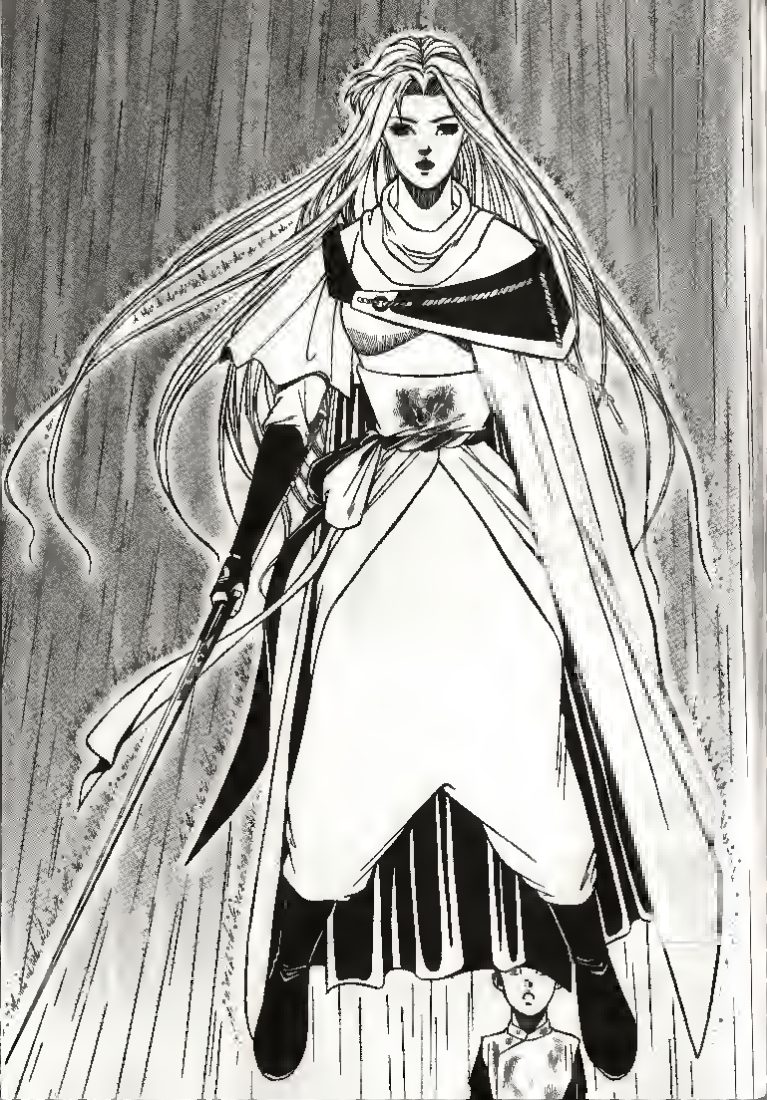

Ha, ha! The kids are under the spell of my Mind Manipulation!
But now, you kids can go meet your parents in hell!
BRP
Oh? Are you going to protect her?
Ha, ha! How naive!

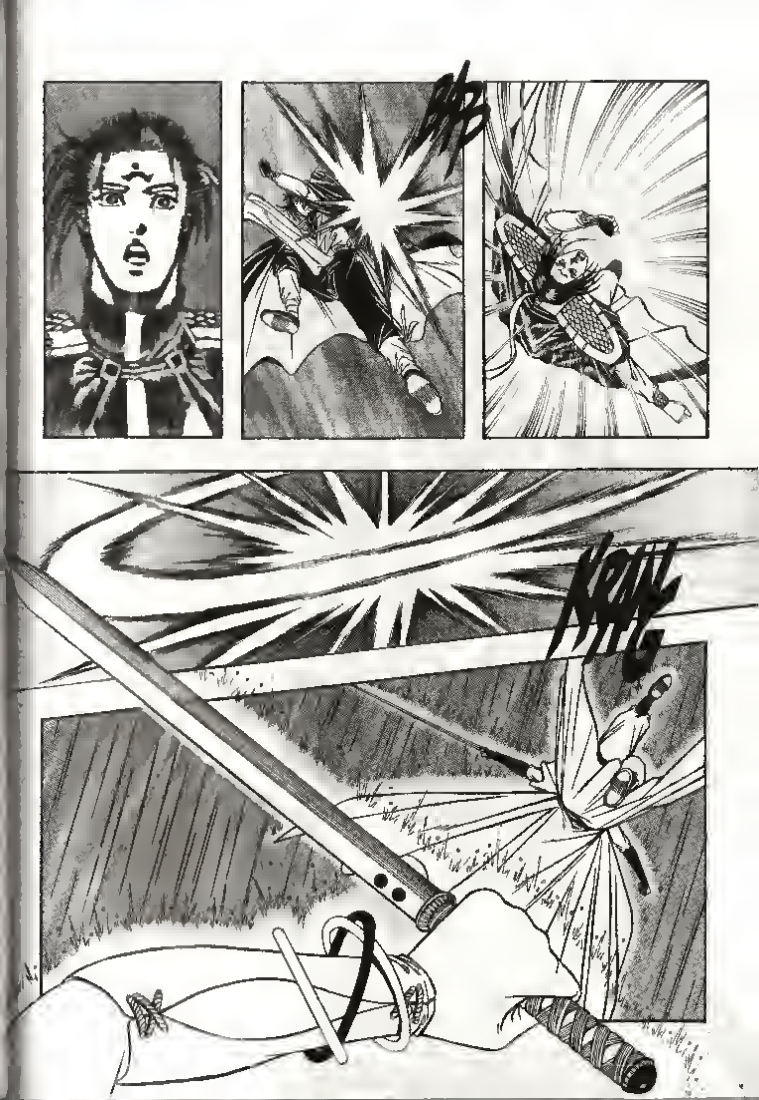
BOOM
O Destroyer of Evil! Look at the state you're in! Ha, he, he, ha!


Ah... she's beautiful!
Ha, ha! Zi Yan of White Tiger Ridge and Meng Xin of Dream Valley are known as the top beauties of the Celestial Zone.
Though I've never met Meng Xin, I dare say Chi Xue is no less beautiful than the top two ravishing beauties!



Quick note: Meng Xin also train late as 'Dream Heart'

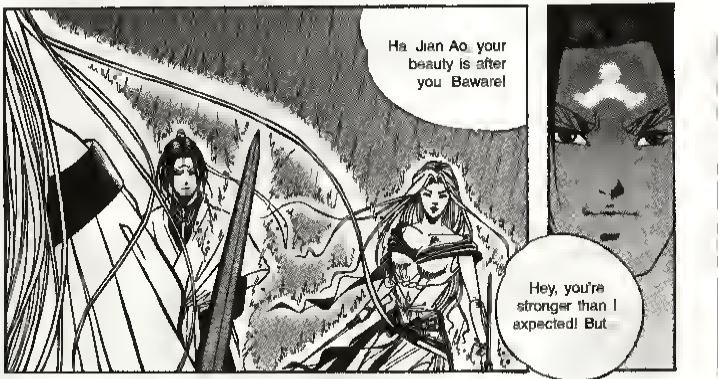


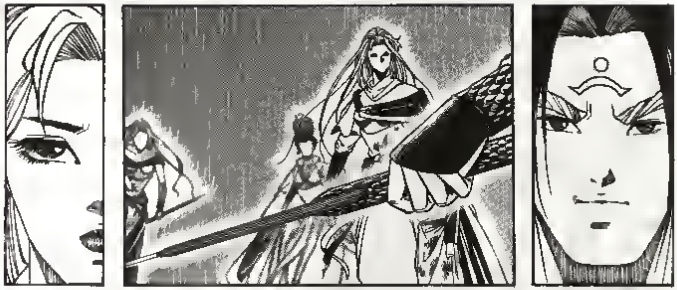

Kaiii

Yin-yang Sword? Zi Yan, the West White Tiger?
Hey Jian Ao. Didn't you despise the idea of joining forces with us?
And now?

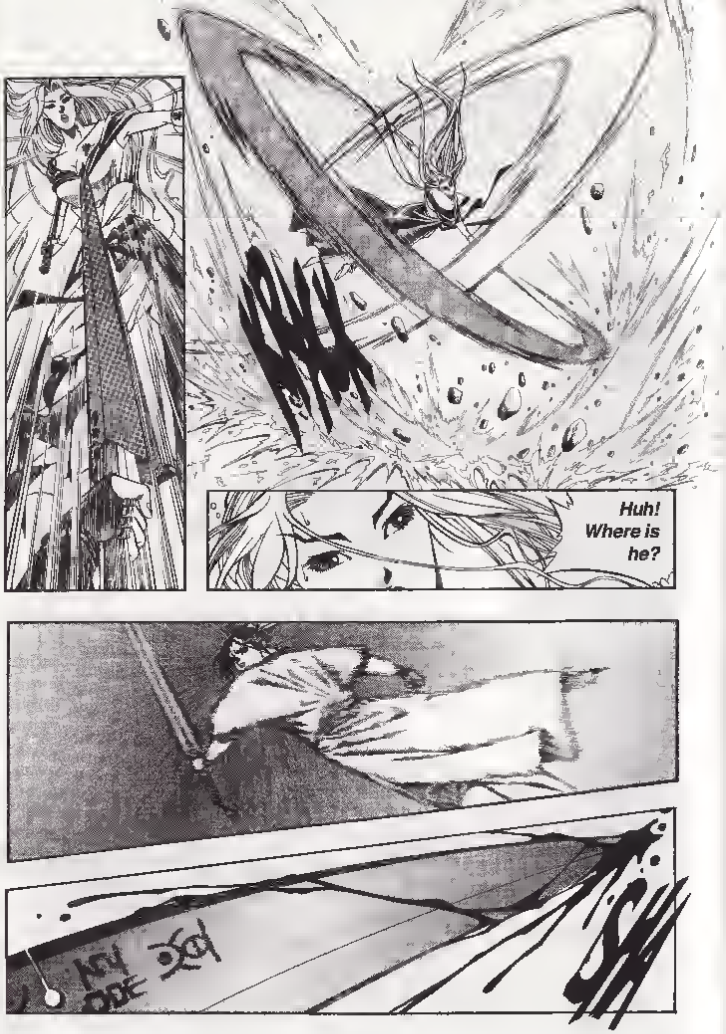
He... I can't help it. The sight of pretty girls retards me...
Jian Ao? The East Green Dragon? No wonder he could dodge my sword!
Oh? Is this the Red Blood Sword feared by all evil creatures?
Hey! Indeed it exudes an awesome air of aggression!
It complements the belligerence of its owner...
Outregsous! With four of us combining forces, need we be scared of you? Go to... hell!
CRESCENT ILLUSION SABRE!

Being poisoned. I can't hold out for long. I must first defeat the strongest among them...


Ha Jian Ao, your beauty is after you. Beware!
Hey, you're stronger than I expected! But...



Chi Xue, you should deem it an honour to behold my Secred Dragon Sword!


Huh!
Where is
he?

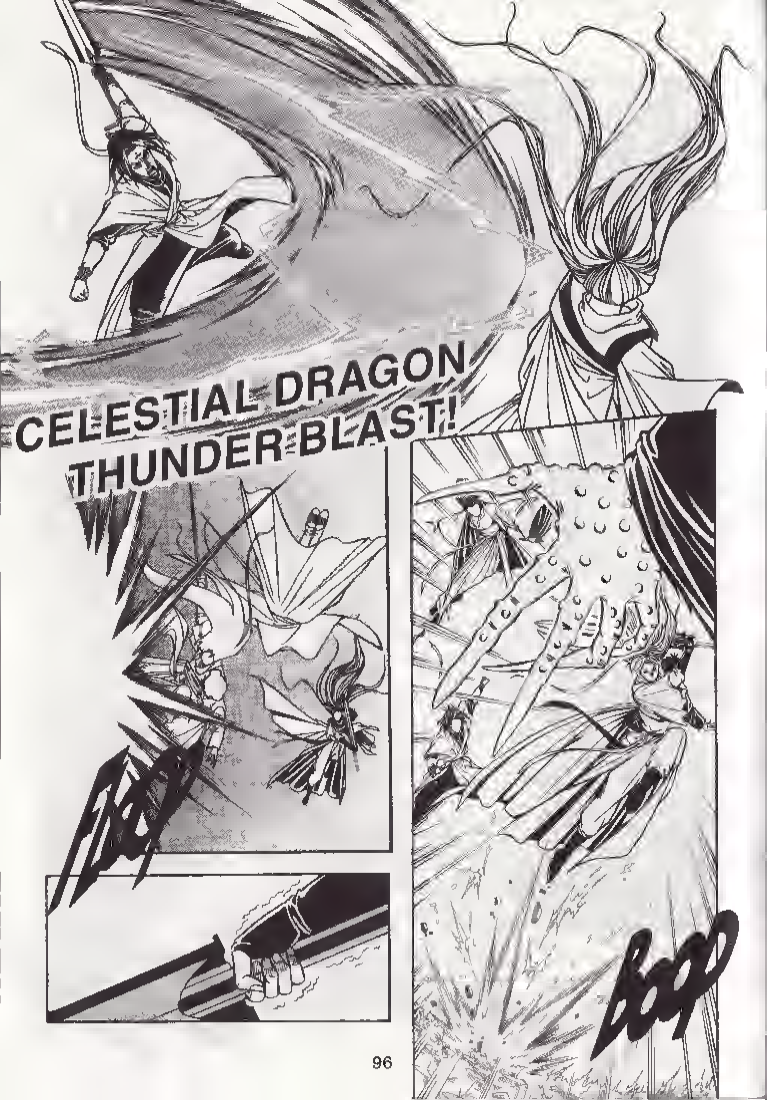
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK

Destroyer of Evil! Don't think I'm an onlooker.
BOOM
BAP
BAP

Darn it!
Don't you
despise me!
THOOP

FLAP
FLAP
Ha! Don't you know when a toad is attacked, its skin can squirt poison?
SKOOSH

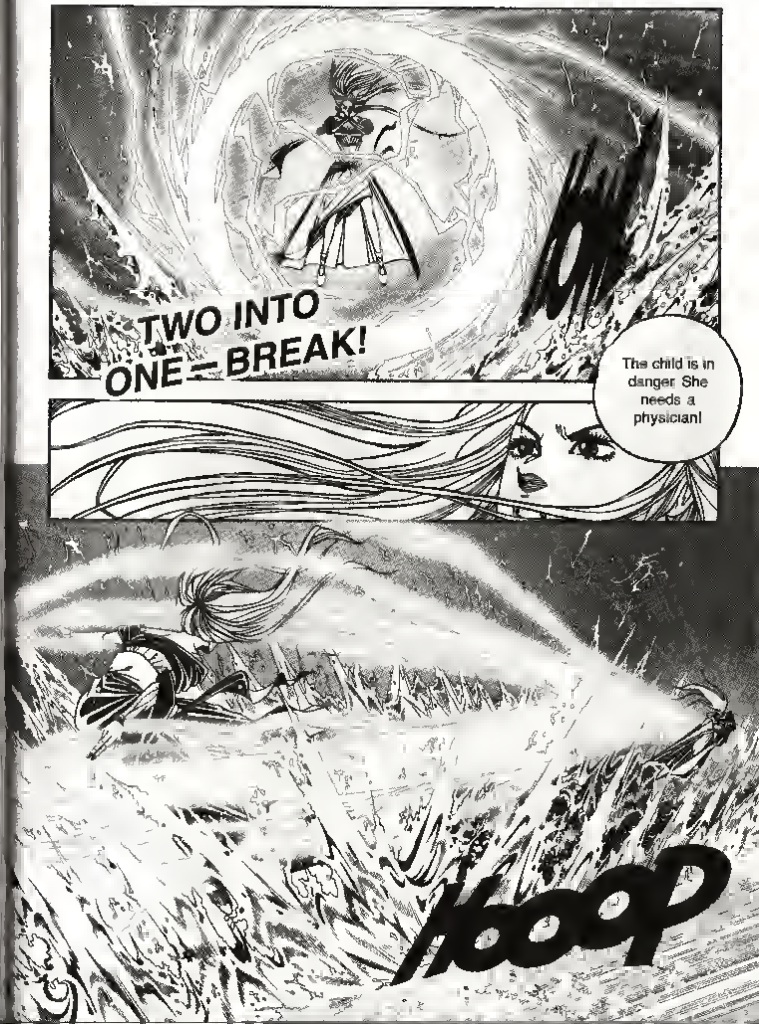
KRAK
Destroyer!
Watch this!


CELESTIAL DRAGON
THUNDER BLAST!
Boop

That's powerful!
I'm awed! Pant... pant it's been an hour
I don't believe we still can t destroy that monstar with our joint attack!

Hey, Little Rabbit. The four of us are injured, whereas she
... though poisoned, is fighting us singlehandedly with a child in the other arm!
Yet ... none of our strokes has hurt her!
Cheep, cheep... White Tiger is indeed a cut above the rest..
Knowing she would jump to protect the other child if we killed one of them
... you told Toad to poison both the children
Look, the poison is taking effect. It's entering her body through the hand that's carrying the child.
However formidable she is, when attacked by two of our poisons...

... she can't hold out against the four of us for long!
White Tiger is indeed great!
Hey, she'll have to use 40% of her strength to suppress the poisons.
But to avoid any trouble, let's do our best!


TWO INTO ONE—BREAK!
The child is in danger. She needs a physician!
HOOP

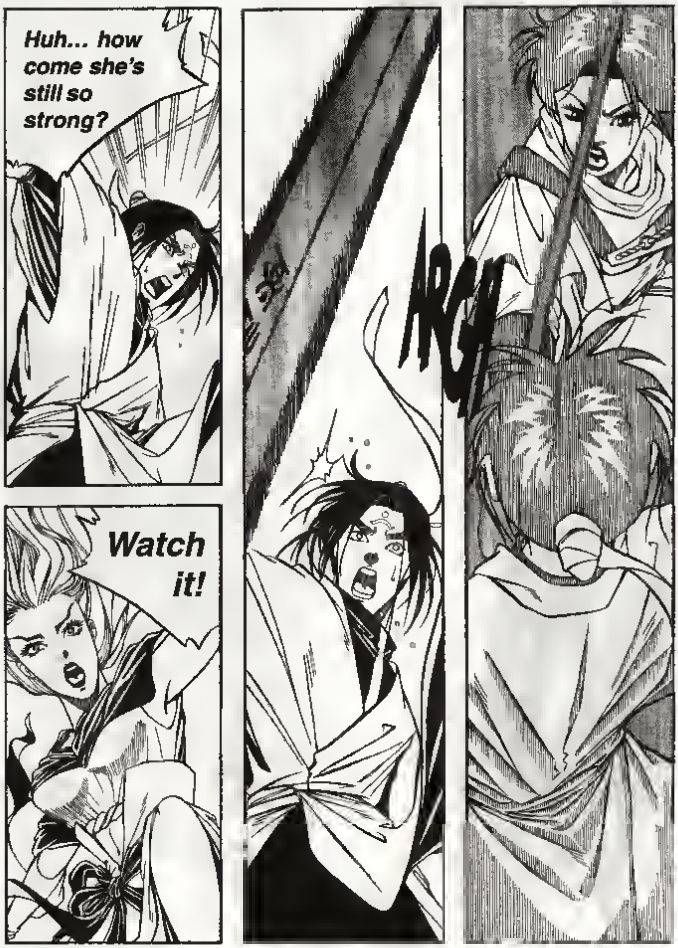
BOOM

SHUK

I'm losing my strength ...

Look! She's obviously losing strength! Let's eliminate her!

BOM
RED
THUNDERBOLT!

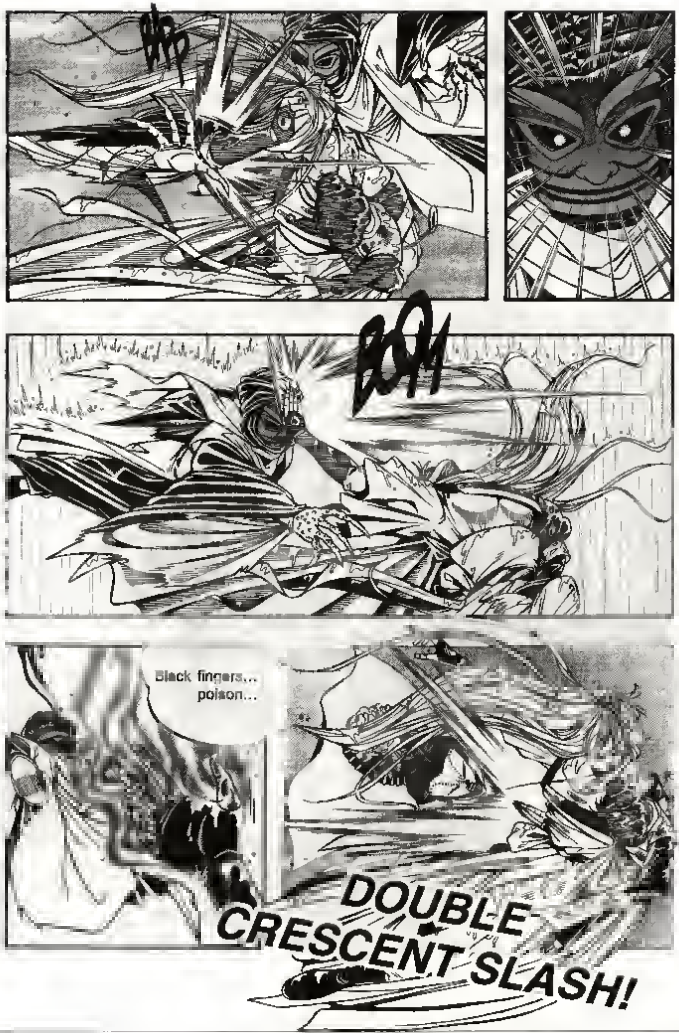

Huh... how come she's still so strong?
Watch it!
ARGH

HOOP

Quickening

LONG
PURSUIT

BOOM
Hey! Jian Ao, you're lucky! She can't even summon the strength to wield her sword
SHA
SHA
And look, she's drenched! Even her protective aura is gone!
BOOM


Black fingers... poison...
DOUBLE CRESCENT SLASH!

Ha, ha! White Tiger, I've struck her!

Ha, ha! Destroyer, are you scratching me?
BOOM
Destroyer! Where are your powers? Ha, ha, ha!
ARGH

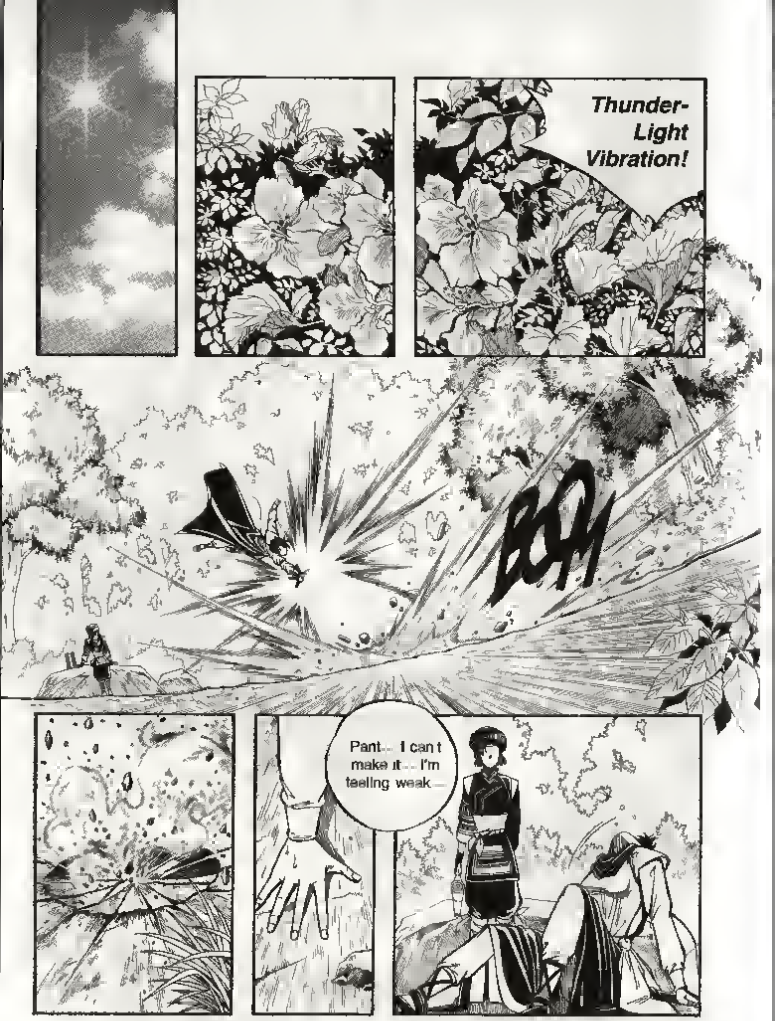
BOOM
Grrr...
(Take the child to a physician!)
You can't fight them. We'll split up and run!
SH

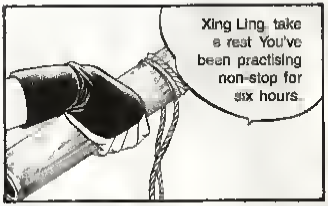
Grrr!
(Got it. I'll shield you Flee first!)
Careful!
Ah! Where did this monster come from?
ROAR
Darn you! How dare you hurt me!
GRRR!

BOOM

BOOM
Grrr! (No! They'll catch up with Chi Xue!)

Oh, this monster is trying to stop us!
HEAVEN-SHAKING POWERS!


Thunder-
Light
Vibration!
BOM
Pant... I can't
make it... I'm
feeling weak...


Xing Ling, take a rest. You've been practising non-stop for six hours.

Sigh... I've not made much progress with Thunder-Light Vibration.
It's come to a standstill.

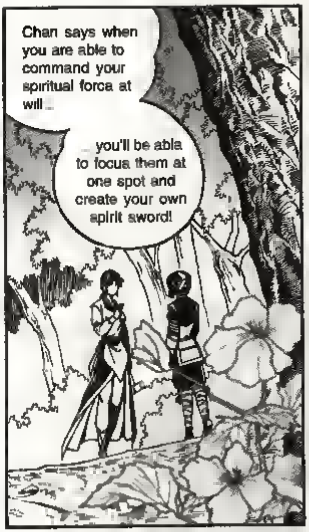
Thanks.

Xing Ling, be patient. After just 10 days or so of practice, you've learnt to use the skill. That's already an achievement.
If I had practised so hard, I would have collapsed in exhaustion.

Chuyi... I've not seen Xue Wu since I started my practice. How is he?

He's been training hard. Qi says it's near completion. He'll be seeing you soon.

Ha, great!
Xing Ling, you're now able to use a little of the spiritual force. Do you feel better?
Hmm... I feel more energised and lighter
But it's quite terrible coping with the stress
Xing Ling, take your time. Chen says when you reach the stage whereby you can command the spirit sword
... you'll be able to control the 100-year-old aura
He, it's not easy to reach the level of wielding the spirit sword


Chan says when you are able to command your spiritual force at will...
...you'll be abla to focus them at one spot and create your own spirit sword!

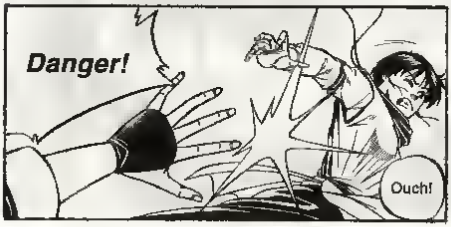
Even Chan has not reached that level. How could I possibly do it?

You mean Chan is so bright but has not yet reached that level? I'm surprised!
Same here...

This attire

It's she!

Chuyi, quick! She's my idol – Chi Xue, the Destroyer of Evil!!


Danger!
Ouch!

What's wrong?

The colour of her fingers shows she's been poisoned!
But you've got to save her!
We don't know what poison it is. Don't touch her or it might spread to us
Of course
Save the child first.
Chuyi, are they unconscious?
The child has been dead for days. Chi Xue didn't know.
She kept using her powers to protect her. That's why the body did not decompose

Ah! How did she
She has only fainted... It's a miracle she held out for so long
Why?
There are more than two poisons within her Though she's been suppressing them with her powers
...she can only delay them from taking effect
Besides, she's seriously injured, yet she held out for 10 days
Without a strong will power, she would have collapsed
?

Look, that's the Moving Air Jade! It's been absorbing some poison from her

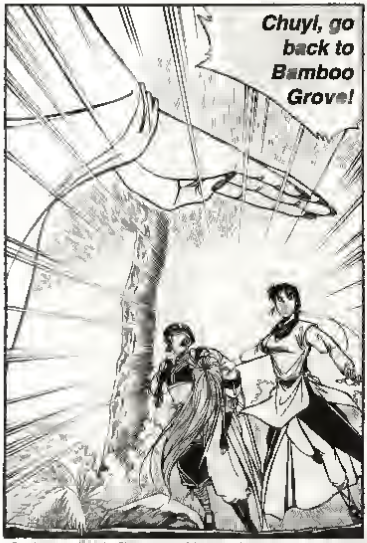
Moving Air Jade? What's that?

I'll tell you later Let's get my medical kit from Bamboo Grove Her condition is critical We must act fast!
Besides we're now outside the grove, unprotected by the maze It's dangerous here!

Help me carry her Careful! Don't touch her skin
She seemed to be running away from her enemy

Ha, ha, ha! Lass, you're right!

It's you! The auntie with a flower on her hair!
What?! Do I look like an auntie...?
So it's you girl. Good to see you!
I'll take revenge all at one time!
So you're responsible for her plight!
Oh... Who is she? So many beauties in the Celestial Zone!
Ha, ha! So what?! I shall now hack this monster into 36 pieces!
Girl, what can you do about it? Ha, ha!



Quick note: In the Chinese unit of distance about one-third of a mile or one-fifth of a kilometer.

...I would make you my friend!
Sigh... I sort of feel sad for this great beauty
She's already injured! Don't hurt her anymore!
!!
Lass, shouldn't you concentrate on your fight with me — Moon Monarch's right envoy?
BOOM

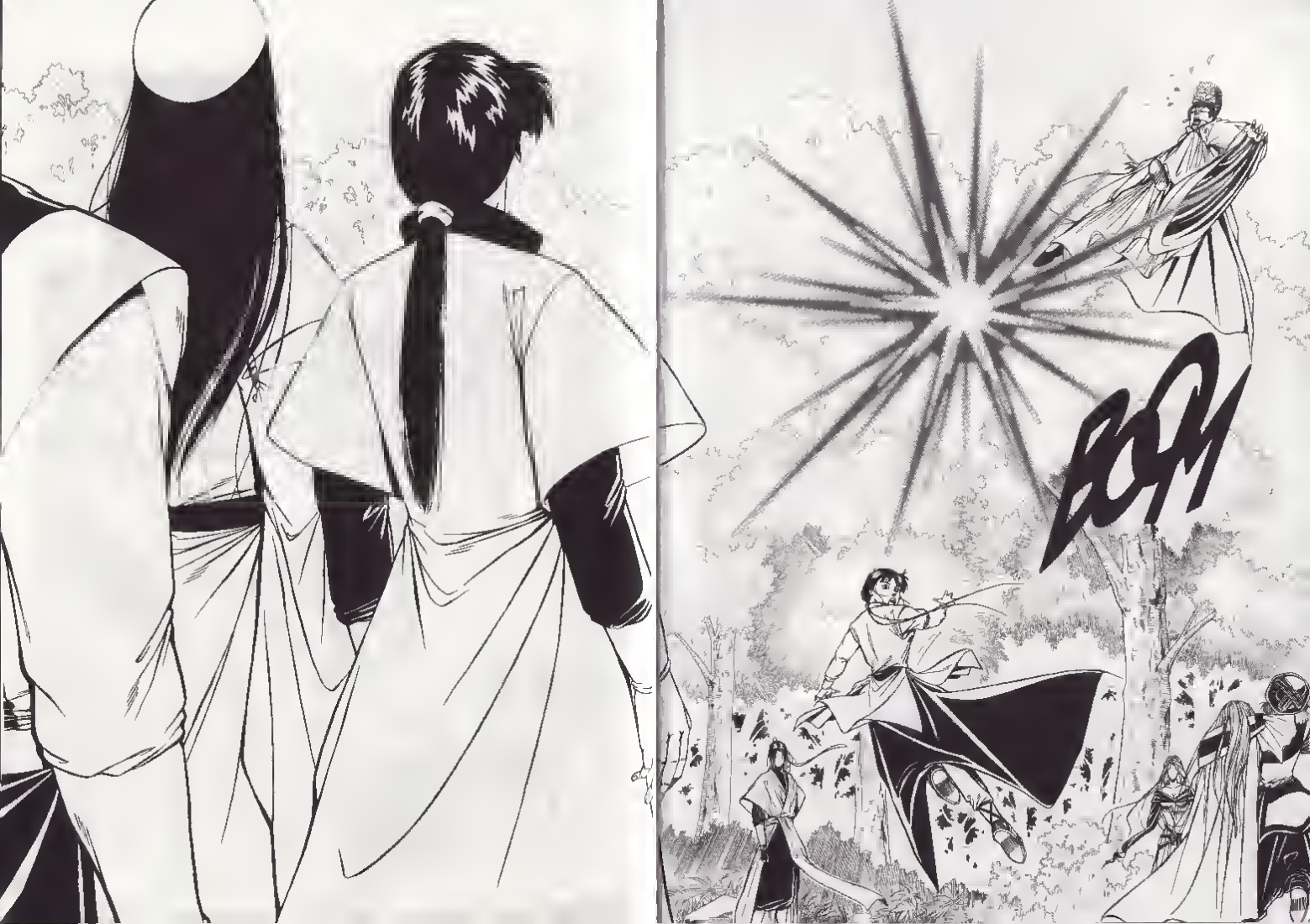
Worry about yourself instead! Ha, ha!
Good, that's something! You must have acquired a few years of powers.
THUNDER-LIGHT VIBRATION!

But a pity your opponent is me! Ha, ha!
SWOOSH
Lass, be good and wait for me here
Watch how I slaughter that monster before dealing with you
Ha, ha, ha!
Stop!

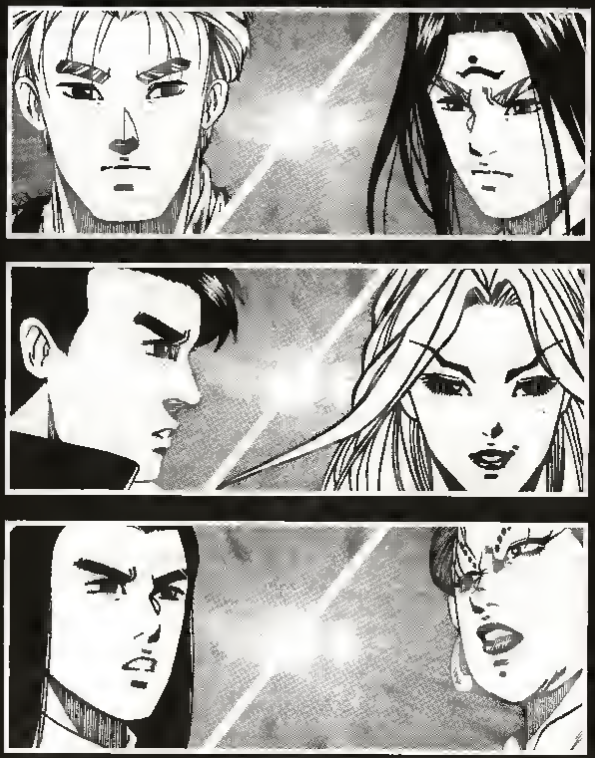
THUNDER-LIGHT VIBRATION!
BOOM

Wow! What a strong aura!
BOOM
Xing Ling... has such strong spiritual force!
She must have unleashed her full strength out of concern for Destroyer of Evil...

How can it be... how can she have such strength?
Wretch! You've humiliated me!
Only Heaven can help you now...
FLOOP
He ha! Perhaps the three of us can save her?


BOOM

Coming Up Next...



More action unfolds in
Volume 7: Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches

Quickening

PANDA: China's National Treasure

GIANT PANDA

With two black rings encircling its eyes and a cute pug nose the adorable Giant Panda has stolen the hearts of both children and adults.

Origins: Discovered just over 100 years ago, the Giant Panda resides in cool mountain forests. Today, it is found only in six tiny areas in west-central China, including Sichuan, Xiaxi and Gansu. The bamboo that pandas feed on flowers once every 100 years, so when entire bamboo forests die out, pandas that cannot move to another area will starve to death. An endangered species, the Giant Panda is truly a rare gem.

Habits: This mild-mannered creature is stubborn in its preference for bamboo shoots, which make up 95% of every meal. Given its large physique, the Giant Panda spends up to 12 hours a day feeding on 9 to 36kg of shoots daily.

Reproduction: Giant Pandas do not breed easily. The female has a gestation period of 90 to 160 days, and delivers only one or two cubs each time.

Current situation: As the human race expands its sphere of activity, the poor Giant Panda is shoved into a tiny area that keeps shrinking as days go by. A diminishing supply of bamboo shoots, the panda's low fertility rate and poaching all contribute to its endangerment. There are less than 1,000 left today!

RED PANDA

The Red Panda looks very different from its black-and-white cousin! Besides their disparate size, the Great Panda looks more like a bear while the Red Panda is more similar to a cat. The Red Panda also has a brightly-coloured bushy tail that the short-tailed Great Panda can only dream of.

Both are mild-mannered, slow and clumsy. However, the Red Panda is an expert at climbing trees, and has even acquired the skill of sleeping in trees.

The Red Panda is less fussy in its choice of food and feasts happily on tender leaves, fruits, even small birds and their eggs. The Red Panda is an endangered species, but its situation is less desperate.

The Celestial Zone
Doom of the Destroyer 6
An Asiapac Publication
Written & Illustrated by
WEE TIAN BENG

The Celestial Zone

Doom of the Destroyer 6

This series relates the camaraderie and heart-stopping exploits of an extraordinary group of people during the tumultuous Warring States Era. Living in a world of their own — a place known as the Celestial Zone — they worked on cultivating special powers beyond the comprehension of mere mortals. Unfortunately, one group branched into the cultivation of evil power and the showdown between two opposing forces began...

In this volume, Wang Chan deduced that Xing Ling had been struck by the Aura of Mt E-mei. Wei Qi's eccentric chessmate Panda warned that the strong force trapped in her body might burst out any time. Thus began the race for Xing Ling to cultivate her spiritual force to control the aura within her.

After his defeat, Xue Wu wallowed in a state of apathy and depression, hardly responding to the people and things around him.

Chi Xue was attacked by Jade Rabbit, Green Dragon, White Tiger and Three-Star Toad. By the time she was discovered by Xing Ling and Damian Chuyi, she had already been severely poisoned ..

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